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Senate Votes Increase in Office of Education Funds

The Senate approved an appropriation of $5,000,000 for salaries and expenses of the U. S. Office of Education when it passed an amended version of H.R. 9720, the Labor-HEW Appropriation Act, on June 5. The Senate Appropriations Committee had recommended only $4,500,000, the same amount approved by the House. An increase of $500,000 was proposed as an amendment by Senator Thye and was adopted. The original budget request was for $600,000,000.

The action by the Senate will help somewhat to finance the proposed educational research program of the Office as explained to the Senate Committee on Appropriations on May 7 by President Hollis L. Caswell of Teachers College, Columbia University, representing the Council's Committee on Relationships of Higher Education to the Federal Government (see this Bulletin, Volume 5, No. 12). The bill will now go to conference. Senate conferees are Senators Hill, Chavez, Russell, Magnuson, Stennis, Clements, Thye, Mundt, Smith of Maine, Dworshak, and Potter.

Senate Restores Funds for Exchange Program

The Senate on May 24 approved appropriations for the Department of State with an amendment increasing the amount for Educational Exchange to $20,000,000. The House previously had approved only $18,170,000 for the Educational Exchange.

The increase to $20,000,000 was in accord with testimony before the Senate Appropriations Committee on May 16 by Dr. Walter H.C. Laves, representing the Commission on Education and International Affairs of the American Council on Education, and also, by agreement, the Association of American Colleges, and by the representatives of other educational organizations. (See this Bulletin, Volume V, No. 14.)

The appropriation for the State Department is now to be considered by a conference committee whose Senate members are Johnson of Texas, Ellender, McClellan, Magnuson, Hayden, Holland, Clements, Green, Mansfield, Bridges, Saltonstall, McCarthy, Mundt, Mrs. Smith of Maine, Dirksen, and Hickenlooper.

House conferees are Representatives Cannon, Taber, Rooney, Preston, Coudert, Bow, Clevenger, Sikes, and Magnuson.

$300,000 Asked for Work of President's Committee

President Eisenhower transmitted to the House of Representatives on May 15 a request for supplementary appropriations for the fiscal year 1957 which includes an item of $300,000 for the President's Committee on Education Beyond the High School. The proposed section of the appropriation bill follows:

> "For necessary expenses of the President's Committee on Education Beyond the High School, including services authorized by section 15 of the Act of August 2, 1946 (5 U.S.C. 55a), at rates not to exceed $50 per diem for individuals; expenses of attendance at meetings concerned with the purposes of the Committee; and actual transportation

expenses and an allowance of not to exceed $12 per diem in lieu of subsistence while away from their homes or regular places of business, for persons attending conferences called by the Committee; $300,000."

The explanation given to justify the appropriation follows: "The President's Committee on Education Beyond the High School was appointed in March of this year to study problems in this field and report its findings and recommendations for appropriate action to the President. Among the problems to be studied by the Committee will be those of providing effective teaching and housing for an expected major increase in college enrollments over the next 10 years; of meeting shortages of scientists, engineers, and other professions; and of insuring that students with talent continue their education until they develop to the fullness of their capacities. This proposed appropriation is necessary to provide for the expenses of the Committee and its staff and for the expenses of regional conferences planned to be held in six areas of the country between November 1956 and May 1957."

House Committee Votes Excise Tax Exemption

On May 17 the House Ways and Means Committee tentatively decided to exempt elementary and secondary schools and colleges and universities operated by non-profit organizations from manufacturers, retailers, transportation, and communication excise taxes.

On April 13, Mr. Laurence Lunden, Comptroller and Treasurer of the University of Minnesota and Chairman of the Council's Committee on Taxation and Fiscal Reporting to the Federal Government, wrote letters on behalf of this Committee to members of the Ways and Means Committee in support of this exemption.

Exchange Visitor Program is Modified by Congress

A previous edition of the Bulletin (Vol. 5, No. 6) reported that proposed legislation would amend the United States Information and Education Act (P.L. 402) so as to prevent the use of the Exchange Visitor Program for immigration purposes. The legislation was passed on March 19 by the Senate, and on May 21 by the House of Representatives.

The amendment, requested by the Administration, will require exchange visitors to return to a cooperating country or countries for an aggregate of two years following their departure from the United States before becoming eligible to re-enter for immigration purposes. This provision may be waived by the Attorney General under special circumstances. The Council's Commission on Education and International Affairs is requesting an opportunity to assist the Departments of State and Justice in developing regulations to put the amendment into effect.

39th ANNUAL MEETING
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